

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

NEW SUMMIT PARTNERS
CORPORATION,

Plaintiff,

v.

CORNWALL, LLC, a Washington Limited
Liability Company; GERALD RIDEOUT
AND KIM RIDEOUT, individually and
their marital community;

Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:18-cv-01599 JCC

**REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF’S MOTION FOR
ISSUANCE OF
A PREJUDGMENT
WRIT OF ATTACHMENT**

NOTING DATE: February 1, 2019

Defendants, Cornwall, LLC (“Cornwall”), Gerald Rideout and Kim Rideout (“the Rideouts”) argue there is no evidence they breached the parties’ agreement and that there is no evidence the Defendants have been sequestering assets in anticipation of this litigation. They make these arguments by studiously and willfully ignoring several key, undisputable facts. First, they ignore that Defendants’ financials, produced for the first time in the past month, reflect they have been misrepresenting to Plaintiff the amount of income they have generated from the property for years. Second, they ignore that, in apparent direct response to Plaintiff’s threat of litigation, they immediately transferred title to their other real property to a brand-new limited liability company.

1 These facts place Plaintiff's claim for relief squarely within the ambit of Washington
 2 State's Prejudgment Writ of Attachment statute. Plaintiff respectfully requests this motion be
 3 granted to ensure there is sufficient security to protect Plaintiff's interests pending resolution of
 4 this litigation.
 5

6 **A. A Clear Ground for Attachment Exists.**

7 Defendants argue that no clear ground for attachment exists, as there is "no evidence
 8 Defendants are at risk of secreting assets to deprive Plaintiff." Defendant's Opposition, Dkt. 19,
 9 p. 4. However, under RCW 6.25.030(10), a clear ground for attachment exists when the "object
 10 for which the action is brought is to recover on a contract, express or implied." Even if Plaintiff
 11 was unable to prove Defendants were converting their property into money to place it beyond the
 12 reach of creditors, the fact Plaintiff's case is premised on a breach of the loan agreement between
 13 the parties is a sufficient, clear ground for attachment under Washington's statutory scheme.
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15 In any event, Defendants ignore that there is clear evidence they were converting property
 16 for the purpose of placing it beyond the reach of its creditors. As described in Plaintiff's motion,
 17 and as will be presented through evidence and testimony introduced at the hearing, Defendants
 18 transferred title to their other real property to a newly-created entity, Broadway Park, LLC (owned
 19 entirely by the Rideouts) within 24 hours of Plaintiff advising them it intended to pursue legal
 20 remedies against them. Clark Decl., Dkt. 17, Exh. 11; Small Decl., Dkt. 18, Exh. 3. This is
 21 precisely the kind of conduct courts in Washington State have considered to be evidence of a
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1 party's intent to deprive a plaintiff of assets in the event of an adverse judgment. *See Glasser v.*
 2 *Blixseth*, 2015 WL 671634, at *2 (W.D. Wash. Feb 17, 2015).

3
 4 **B. Plaintiff Will Be Able to Prove the Probable Validity of Its Claims.**

5 Defendants argue that Plaintiff's only evidence of breach is that Defendants have refused
 6 to sign a promissory note. This ignores that on January 4, 2019, Defendants produced to Plaintiff
 7 copies of unsupported financial statements reflecting that Defendants had generated almost
 8 \$50,000.00 in profits between December, 2015 and December, 2017. Clark Dec., Dkt. 17, Exh.
 9 11. This realized profit is entirely contrary to the contemporaneous representations Defendants
 10 made to Plaintiff that the expenses were high and they did not have sufficient money to make
 11 payments during that period. Clark Decl., Dkt. 17, ¶¶ 12-13, Exh. 5-7. To the extent Defendants
 12 object that these allegations are not pled, Plaintiff was unable to discover these facts until after
 13 litigation commenced, and would be pleased to amend the complaint to conform the pleadings to
 14 this recently-discovered evidence.

15
 16 Also, Defendants argue they rejected Plaintiff's proposed written security documents as
 17 they were "accompanied by a host of terms that were not agreed to." Defendant's Opposition, Dkt.
 18 19, p. 5. This again entirely ignores the course of conduct between the parties. When Plaintiff
 19 presented Defendants with proposed security documents, Defendants did not object. They did not
 20 propose edits to the documents. They did not offer their own draft of the documents. They did not
 21 argue that the parties never contemplated a Deed of Trust. Instead, it is undisputed that Defendants
 22 ignored Plaintiff and his attorneys entirely, steadfastly refusing any attempt by Plaintiff to obtain
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1 any written agreement until this lawsuit was filed. Clark Decl., Dkt. 17, ¶ 19; Small Decl., Dkt.
 2 18, Exh. 2. Defendants' attempt to solve the problem of written security by sticking their heads in
 3 the sand and ignoring the problem is facially inconsistent with the parties' agreement.¹
 4

5 Finally, Defendant objects to the fact Plaintiff seeks to attach the monies it is owed for its
 6 20% share of the rental revenues. This ignores that Defendants have previously acknowledged, in
 7 writing, that Plaintiff is entitled to those rental revenues. Clark Decl., Dkt. 17, ¶ 14, Exh. 7.
 8 Defendants' attempt to rewrite history to remove a key component of their agreement does not
 9 warrant denying Plaintiff's motion for a writ of attachment.
 10

11 **C. Plaintiff's Witness List.**

12 Plaintiff intends to call Tim Clark, Gerald Rideout, and Kim Rideout as witnesses during
 13 the hearing. The attendance of Gerald and Kim Rideout has been compelled via subpoena. Plaintiff
 14 anticipates that each witness shall take no more than one hour.
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16 **D. Conclusion.**

17 Plaintiff is able to demonstrate that several clear grounds of attachment exist, and that its
 18 claims have probable validity. Plaintiff respectfully requests its motion be granted and a
 19 prejudgment writ of attachment securing all net proceeds of the pending sale be issued.
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¹ This is consistent with the Rideouts' course of conduct throughout these proceedings. The Rideouts would not even confirm to their own attorneys that they would be in attendance at the February 1, 2019 hearing, necessitating Plaintiff issuing subpoenas compelling their attendance. Small Reply Decl., Exh. 1, 2, & 3.

1 DATED this 31st day of January, 2019.

2 LASHER HOLZAPFEL
3 SPERRY & EBBERSON PLLC

4 */s/ Sean V. Small*
5 */s/ Paul Spadafora*

6 Sean V. Small, WSBA # 37018
7 Paul Spadafora, WSBA # 49777
8 ***Attorneys for Plaintiff***

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on January 31, 2019, I caused the foregoing pleading to be electronically filed with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the following counsel:

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DATED this 31st day of January, 2019 at Seattle Washington

/s/ Ellen M. Krachunis

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